



NJ National Guard Child & Youth Program News

State Family Programs Office
Joint Military & Family Assistance Center
February & March, 2014

If you would like to receive the newsletter and other useful emails directly, please provide your email address to Amanda Balas and she will gladly add it to the Child & Youth distribution list.

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NJ National Guard Youth Camp July 13-19, 2014

This year will be our 20th year holding Camp by the beach at the National Guard Training Center in Sea Girt, NJ.

Camp for youth ages 9 - 15 will be from 13-19 July 2014.
Counselors and Volunteers will need to be available from 12-19 July 2014.
****Counselor Training will take place on Saturday 21 June 2014 from 10:00am until 3:30pm at the Woodbridge Armory****

NEW FOR 2014:

- **Apply online only; no downloadable paper version this year**
- **Counselors in Training (CITs) Tier System**
- **Counselors in Training (CITs) must complete a questionnaire when applying**
- **ALL volunteers must submit a local police records check (DD Form 369)**

The application deadline this year is May 15, 2014. Please ensure that you get your medical forms in as soon as possible to ensure a seat

COST: \$150.00 per Camper/CIT. If you use our online payment method, a \$5.00 processing fee is charged to cover costs. If writing check, please make it payable to: *NJNG Family Programs Local Fund*. This fee supplements the cost of camper gear as well as activities and meals. **REFUND:** \$100.00 refund if child cancels more than 14 days before camp, no refund if child cancels within 14 days of camp. If refund is required, the returned check will NOT be issued until the week after Youth Camp.

For more information, please visit:

http://www.nj.gov/military/familysupport/youth_camp.html

To apply today, please visit: <http://njngyouthcamp.org/>



Find us on
Facebook

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!!!

www.Facebook.com/NJNGChildandYouthProgram

****Please know that our office at the Joint Military & Family Assistance Center located on US Highway 206 in Bordentown is temporarily closed for renovations. Our office phone numbers have been temporarily disconnected for the time being, so please email or call our cell phones to get in touch with us. We hope to be back in our office by summer.**

Thank you ~ Amanda & Nicole

Fun 4 Guards

The National Guard 4-H Club, Fun 4 Guards, will be meeting again starting in March 2014. The Club will meet on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:00pm at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Office in Burlington County located at 2 Academy Drive in Westampton – off Woodlane Road, across from school.



This 6 week session's theme is **“Adventures and Mystery in the Kitchen”** and will focus on activities using food and working with Nutritional Facts, measurements and experiments. The group is open to military youth ages 10-14 with 20 max participation. The meeting dates are March 11, March 18, March 25, April 1, April 8 and April 15.

For more information or to sign up today, please contact Amanda Balas at amanda.m.balas.ctr@mail.mil

Mark Your Calendars

April is Month of the Military Child!!!!

Please recognize your military child, teen or young adult throughout the month of April for all the contributions he/she have made while you are serving our nation.

National Guard Spring Break Camp-

This year, the Child & Youth Program will be holding a 3 day Camp for National Guard youth at the Toms River Armory on Tues April 15, Wed April 16 and Thurs April 17. The Camp will be held for National Guard youth ages 6-12 from 8:00am until 5:00pm each day. More information to follow in the near future.

Celebrating Military Children at the Mt. Laurel YMCA- May 4, 2014

The YMCA will be holding its annual Healthy Kids Day event this year at the Mount Laurel YMCA located at 59 Centerton Road Mount Laurel NJ 08054. NJ Operation Military Kids will again hold their Celebrating Military Children event in conjunction with the YMCA.

This event is FREE and open to all military children and teens ages 5-17. There is a one page permission slip required to be on file before start of event. More information with permission slip will follow in the next couple weeks.

PURPLE UP!!!
Show your support for
MILITARY YOUTH
by wearing purple on
Tuesday April 15, 2014

Military Saves Week – 24 Feb through 1 Mar

DID YOU KNOW???

****FEWER THAN 50% OF AMERICANS SAY THEY HAVE A SAVINGS PLAN WITH SPECIFIC GOALS.**

****MONEY IS THE TOP SOURCE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS FOR ADULTS**

To kick off the 2014 Military Saves Campaign, the Department of Defense has designated 24 February through 1 March 2014 as Military Saves Week. While the Military Saves Campaign is a year-long effort, Military Saves Week is an opportunity to focus on the financial readiness of military members and their families to help them reduce debt and save for the future.

The American Saves slogan, "Start Small, Think Big," is shared by Military Saves and promotes the long-term benefits of saving a little each month. There is also a Military Youth Saves program too which encourages children and teens to develop good saving habits at a young age.

For more information, please visit, www.militarysaves.org

If you are a child, teen or young adult and want to take the pledge, please go to

<http://americasaves.org/for-savers/young-america-saves/young-america-saves-pledge>



SAVE THE DATE



You are invited to attend the upcoming ***Responding to the Military Child with Exceptional Needs Institute (RMCEN)***. The military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), a nonprofit organization addressing the educational needs of children in military families, presents the training. This 2 day institute, formerly known as *Special Educators Leadership Institute (SELI)*, prepares professional educators, social service providers, parents, and community leader to address the additional challenges associated with transitioning military-connected students with exceptional needs. For the purpose of this course, children with exceptional needs are defined as those who need either special education services or gifted education services to maximize their individual potential, with special emphasis on the importance of synchronization of services during transitions.

DATE & TIME: Tuesday April 29 & Wednesday April 30, 2014

Registration & Breakfast: 8:00-8:30am

Institute Training: 8:30am-4:00pm (includes a working lunch)

PLACE: Military Family Support Center (McGuire-Dix Room)
3435 Broidy Road Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst, NJ 08641

SPONSOR: Funded by the AF; NO COST to participants

Log on to militarychild.org/training to register today!!!

CONTACT INFORMATION: For more information about this training, other professional development opportunities or learner support, please contact Myriam Virella at 254-953-1923 x1119 or myriam.virella@militarychild.org



The Armed Services YMCA is proud to announce the **2014 ASYMCA Essay Contest!**

Theme: My Military Hero

- Volunteers will be reading all of your essays and will award the 1st prize in grades 1-8 category with an iPod Touch! Winners in Grades 9-12 will receive an IPAD.
- Children of all Active Duty or retired (with 20+ years of service) military personnel from Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, Coast Guard and National Guard/Reserve families in first through twelfth grade (1st – 12th grades) are eligible to enter.
- Grades 1-8 should write an essay of at least 100 words but not more than 300 words!
- Grades 9-12 should write no less than 300 words and no more than 500.
- All mailed entries must have an essay entry form found at the ASYMCA website: www.asymca.org
 - **All entries must be postmarked by March 14, 2014.**
Mail Entries to:
The Armed Services YMCA
Attn: 2014 Essay Contest
7405 Alban Station Court, Suite B 215
Springfield, VA 22150
- Email Entries may also be sent to MFM2014@asymca.org by March 14, 2014. Entries must include all the information that is on the entry form!
- If you have any questions at all, please feel free to email Giselle Schneider at gschneider@asymca.org

All of the Essays become property of the non-profit Armed Services YMCA and will not be returned. Visit the Armed Services YMCA website at www.asymca.org for complete rules and extra entry forms. The Armed Services YMCA is rated as an "Exceptional" Charity by Charity Navigator in 2012 and has helped make military life easier since the Civil War.

***The winning entries will be used on the Military Family Month Poster for November 2014 and on ASY Materials!



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ARMY

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(including Active Duty, Reserve & Guard families)

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For more information, you can also email
Lori Caputo at loricaputo@eknowledge.com



RED CROSS CERTIFICATION

For those of you who participated in the 8 Feb American Red Cross Training, remember you can get your certificates fast, easy and digital!!!! Access to Red Cross certificates anytime, anywhere....

**Never lose your card again

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**Proof of certification in the palm of your hand

**Print, share and download certificates wherever and whenever you like

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